

NOTICES OF NEW FISHES.

By WILLIAM MACLEAY, F.L.S., &c.

PLATYCEPHALUS LONGISPINIS. n. sp.

D. 17/14. A. 14. L. lat. 75.

Somewhat like *P. Bassensis*. Length of head $3\frac{1}{3}$ in the total length, width of head one-fourth of the same. The space between the eyes is flat and less than the diameter of the eye, with a distinct ridge on each side commencing at the anterior edge of the orbit, and terminating at the extremity of the occiput, the latter part of the ridges interrupted, and resembling long, low, recumbent spines, without being spinous. Another very low similarly interrupted ridge is traceable behind the eye, commencing with one or two short spines, and extending to the commencement of the lateral line. A trace of another ridge in the median line of the head is to be seen near the snout, and again behind the eyes in about the line of the præorbital spines, it shows in one very low, long, recumbent spine. The præocular terminates at its outer anterior angle in a strong, acute, short spine, from thence proceed two ridges, with a smooth groove between to the præopercular spines, the first sixth of the lower of these ridges is strongly serrated. The lower præopercular spine is very long, strong, acute, and grooved on its thicker portion, the upper is less than a third of the length of the other, and points upwards and away from it. One spine on the operculum. The lower jaw is longer than the upper.

Lateral line smooth. Coloration yellowish-grey, spotted with yellow on the upper surface, white on the under surface, the two dorsals and the pectoral fins spotted with brown; the ventrals and anal white. The caudal fin is imperfect in my only specimen, but it seems to have been clouded with black. Length, 10 inches.

Taken in a trawl net outside Port Jackson in 50 fathoms.

PETROSCIRTES WILSONI. n. sp.

D. 26. A. 22. V. 2.

Height of body one-fifth of the total length. Profile perpendicular, with a high compressed crest as in *P. cristiceps*. Several of the rays, from the 17th backwards, of the dorsal fin terminate in long filaments. Colour (in spirits) dark grey, a row of moderate sized spots along the median line of the side towards the tail, and a row of smaller spots beneath. The dorsal fin is indistinctly speckled, the anal is blackish margined. The pectorals are colourless. In the fresh specimen the colours were probably more brilliant, and possibly reddish in some places.

This fish was found lately at the north shore of Port Jackson by Mr. J. D. Wilson, in an empty shell.

ATHERINOSOMA JAMESONII.

D. 5/8. A. 12. L. lat. 28. L. tr. 5-6.

Height of body over 4 times in the total length; length of head about the same. Eye large, head between the eyes broad and flat. Mouth small, slightly oblique, the edge of each jaw armed with a row of strong recurved teeth, similar teeth on the vomer. Scales large, cycloid, no lateral line. The 1st dorsal fin is situated in front of the middle of the back, and has the 1st spine terminating in a long filament, the others are filamentose, but shorter; the 2nd dorsal commences opposite the middle of the anal, and has the first rays elevated; the anal also has the first few rays elevated; the caudal fin is moderately forked; the ventrals reach to the anus; the pectorals reach to the 7th body scale. Colour greenish yellow, with minute microscopic dots all over but thickest towards the back, a narrow black line on the side along the middle of the 3rd row of scales; the first rays of the 2nd dorsal and anal fins black; the 1st dorsal fin finely speckled, the ventrals colourless. Length, $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

Bremer River, a tributary of the Brisbane. Fresh water.

This very curious little fish which I name after its discoverer, Mr. Jamieson of Ipswich, is most certainly akin to the *Atherinosoma*

vorax, described by Count Castelnau, from Cape Schank, and I provisionally place it in that genus. Assuredly it cannot be placed in the Family *Atherinidae*, notwithstanding its many points of resemblance, but I am not quite satisfied as to its real affinities, and therefore refrain from placing it, as was suggested by the late Count Castelnau, in a new Family to be named *Neoatherinidae*.

UROLOPHUS BUCCULENTUS. n. sp.

This species differs from *U. testaceus* in being broader on the disk, and in having the snout terminating in a more distinct triangular point, in having the tail shorter, with the dorsal fin much larger, and the caudal broader and more rounded. But the chief difference is in the mouth, which in this species is more than three times larger proportionately to the size of the fish than in *U. testaceus*. The nasal valve is almost truncate, and not fringed, and there are twelve short papillæ at the bottom of the mouth.

Trawled outside Port Jackson, in 40 to 60 fathoms.